

REMARKS

The Applicant respectfully submits this Preliminary Amendment for the present patent application attached herewith.

The Preliminary Amendment amends claims 1, 5-11, and 15-19. In addition, the amendment adds new claims 21-37; no claims have been canceled. *Therefore claims 1-37 are pending for examination.*

The Applicant submits that no new matter has been added by this Preliminary Amendment. See the attached copy of specification support for the amendment.

Thank you. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned if necessary to further expedite this matter.

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Respectfully Submitted,

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SPECIFICATION SUPPORT FOR AMENDMENTS

1. ~~In a wireless local area network, a~~ A method of communicating cellular network broadcast information to one or more mobile stations by a wireless local area network, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving, from one or more available cellular networks or a network database, [see page 12 at lines 1-4] cellular network broadcast [see page 14 at lines 19-21] information associated with the one or more available cellular networks [see page 2 at lines 13-16];

formatting the cellular network broadcast information in a generic container message which varies in content and format in accordance with different cellular standards associated with the one or more available cellular networks [see page 14 at lines 24-30, and page 16 at lines 11-18]; and

transmitting, in an extensible authentication procedure, the generic container message for receipt and use by a mobile station in selecting one of the one or more available cellular networks for communication [see page 15 at lines 15-25].

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the generic container message includes a technology-specific container.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the generic container message includes a tag field for identifying the generic container message.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the generic container message includes a data field for identifying a technology standard or standard organization associated with a first cellular network.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the generic container message includes a data field for identifying a standard or standard organization associated with a first cellular network, and the cellular network broadcast information includes first cellular network information which identifies a first cellular network.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the cellular network information is received from a network database one or more available cellular networks comprise a plurality of cellular networks [see FIG. 3, Table 1 on pages 12-13, and page 16 at lines 5-10].

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the cellular network broadcast information includes: first cellular network information from a first cellular network; and

second cellular network information from a second cellular network.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the cellular network broadcast information includes:
first cellular network information from a first cellular network having a first information content;
and

second cellular network information from a second cellular network having a second information content different from the first information content.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the cellular network broadcast information includes:
first cellular network information which identifies a first cellular network; and
second cellular network information which identifies a second cellular network.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the cellular network broadcast information includes a mobile network code (MNC) and a mobile country code (MCC) which identifies a first cellular network.

11. ~~In a mobile station, a~~ A method of receiving and processing cellular network broadcast [see page 14 at lines 19-21] information from a wireless local area network by a mobile station, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving, in an extensible authentication procedure, a generic container message from a wireless local area network, the generic container message including cellular network broadcast information associated with one or more available cellular networks which varies in content and format in accordance with different cellular standards associated with the one or more available cellular networks [see page 14 at lines 24-30, and page 16 at lines 11-18];

decoding the generic container message to identify the cellular network broadcast information from associated with the one or more available cellular networks; and

storing the cellular network broadcast information in memory of the mobile station; and
selecting one of the one or more available cellular networks for communication using the cellular network broadcast information stored in the memory [see page 15 at lines 15-25].

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the generic container message includes a technology-specific container.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein the generic container message includes a tag field which identifies the generic container message.

14. The method of claim 11, wherein the generic container message includes a data field for identifying a technology standard or standard organization associated with a first cellular network.
15. The method of claim 11, wherein the cellular network broadcast information includes:
first cellular network information from a first cellular network; and
second cellular network information from a second cellular network.
16. The method of claim 11, wherein the cellular network broadcast information includes a mobile network code (MNC) and a mobile country code (MCC) which identifies a first cellular network.
17. The method of claim 11, wherein the cellular network broadcast information includes first cellular network information which identifies a first cellular network and second cellular network information which identifies a second cellular network, the method further comprising:
selecting one of the first and the second cellular networks for communication through the wireless local area network.
18. The method of claim 11, wherein the cellular network broadcast information includes:
first cellular network information from a first cellular network which operates in accordance with a first communication standard; and
second cellular network information from a second cellular network which operates in accordance with a second communication standard different from the first communication standard.
19. The method of claim 11, wherein the cellular network broadcast information includes:
first cellular network information from a first cellular network having a first information content; and
second cellular network information from a second cellular network having a second information content different from the first information content.
20. The method of claim 11, wherein one of the cellular networks operates in accordance with a 3rd Generation Project Partnership (3GPP) standard.

New claims 21-22 and 37 recite that the cellular network broadcast information may include a System Identification (SID), and support for this limitation is found in the originally filed application on page 12 at lines 5-8 and Table 1 on pages 12-13, for example. Note that new claims 23-29 are directed to a “wireless local area network” and include limitations substantially the same as amended method claims 1-7. Note further that new claims 30-35 are directed to a “mobile station” and include limitations substantially the same as amended method claims 11-16.